



**TYLER E. TRIPP**  
**STATE'S ATTORNEY**

# **Office of the State's Attorney**

## **Union County, Illinois**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 28, 2021

#### **Top Administrators Charged With Official Misconduct at** **Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center**

Union County State's Attorney Tyler E. Tripp announces the Grand Jury's issuance of True-Bill Indictments against Bryant T. Davis, Teresa A. Smith and Gary K. Goins. All are administrators at Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in Anna. Davis and Goins are each charged with one count of Official Misconduct, a Class 3 Felony. Smith is charged with one count of Official Misconduct, a Class 3 Felony, and one count of Obstruction of Justice, a Class 4 Felony.

All are accused of violating DHS Investigative Protocol. It is alleged that these violations started a chain of events that impeded an active investigation by Illinois State Police-Division of Internal Investigation of a staff member battering an individual served at the facility. Felony charges are currently pending against that staff as well. Smith is also accused of making false statements to State Police regarding her access and review of investigative files at Choate. Davis, Smith and Goins are scheduled for first appearance in Union County on July 19, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

The State's Attorney wishes to thank all investigators and law enforcement as well as the numerous facility staff and others who strive daily to provide care, advocacy and protection to some of the most vulnerable and misunderstood members of the community.

**The Union County State's Attorney's Office reminds the public that the charges and allegations above ARE NOT evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and has a Constitutional right to a fair trial in which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.**

*Media: Please contact the Union County Sheriff's Office at (618) 833-5500 for any available booking photographs.*